

BOBCAT NEWS

MAY 2016



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Spring is here! With the warm weather here to stay, we are very busy at Buckley School. With many activities that take place in school and outside of school, we are asking that you continue to emphasize to your children that there is a great deal of learning that will continue these next two months. We have high expectations for our students, just like at the start of the school year. Demonstrating consistent effort, hard work and appropriate behavior is critical, allowing students to end the year on a positive note.

As the year comes to a close, we begin to plan for the next school year. One of our major tasks is the development of class lists. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, please understand that this is a carefully thought out process, with the lists being created by the current year's teacher along with supporting staff including our social worker, school psychologist, our literacy and numeracy coach, accompanied by input and discussion with the principal and receiving teachers. A great deal of time is spent considering many factors to make the right decision for each child. Our ultimate goal is to provide your child with their best placement. With this in mind, please know that **we** will make the ultimate decision as to class placement. Thank you for your understanding. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

I would like to draw your attention to my letter, located in this newsletter, regarding our Parent Advisory Group and the work we have been engaged in for the past few months. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at school to discuss further. Thank you!

As I have done in the past, I have provided dates of events here at school for your planning purposes. Please keep it handy and refer to it throughout the next two months. Pay particular attention to the dates of our many activities.



**Buckley
Elementary
School**

250 Vernon St.
Manchester, CT
860-647-3302

Absentee Line
860-647-3344

www.mpspride.org

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

May 6
May 9, 11 and 12
May 12
May 18
May 20
May 24
May 26
May 27
May 30
May 31

PTA Lego Night @ 6:30
Kindergarten Registration
PTA Meeting @ 6:30
Early Dismissal @ 1:17
PTA Movie Night and Ice Cream Social
Spring Concert @ 7:00 Buckley Gymnasium
Field Day!
Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
Memorial Day-No School
Field Day **RAIN DATE**

June 6
June 8
June 10
June 13

Grade 5 trip to Winding Trails!
PTA Cook Out!
Grade 5 promotion ceremony
Last Day of School!



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone of our safety procedures that we have at school. As the year winds down and we are holding many activities, I believe this is an ideal time to remind everyone of our safety procedures.

- ✦ Please know that we conduct emergency drills (fire drills and lockdown drills) on a monthly basis;
 - ✦ Staff are assigned at our doorways on Vernon Street and Barry Road in the morning and afternoon to ensure that your child is supervised;
 - ✦ All parents/guardians should continue to check in and sign in at the main office when entering the building. If you are visiting a classroom, this must be approved prior to the date of the visit. Once you sign in at the main office, you will receive a visitor's badge. Please wear a badge when in the building;
 - ✦ Please ring the bell in order to enter the building;
 - ✦ Please note that parents/guardians cannot drop off their child or pick up their child in the classroom;
- When picking up your child, you may be asked to present identification. Please note that this is for the safety of your child.

Thank you for all your support throughout the school year. Please enjoy the many activities that will take place here.

Fondly,
Matt Daly

Please Note: Please take the time to read my letter regarding our Principal's Advisory Group. Thank you.



KICKIN' KINDERGARTEN Ms. Adams, Mrs. Hoffman & Ms. Lavallee

We have certainly seen our share of April showers this month and are excited to move into the month of May. We have been very busy writers, learning how to be persuasive writers. In reading we are learning what it means to be an avid reader. We are focusing on our partner work during reader's workshop and practice using strategies to identify characters' feelings, and naming important parts in stories. In math, we continued our unit on teen numbers and have also been focusing on number sense with numbers 0-100.

May will be another busy month for us. The themes that we will be visiting include, butterflies, barnyard animals, and flowers. In preparation for first grade the children have started to practice writing their first and last names. We are working hard at using uppercase and lowercase letters appropriately. A main focus is also on independent work completion and problem solving. We are encouraging the children to solve problems on their own and to stay focused on their work at all times. This will help them be more prepared for first grade. Be sure to compliment your child when they complete tasks around the home on their own. This will help to build their confidence. Enjoy the springtime weather!

FABULOUS FIRST GRADE Ms. Seaha & Mrs. Bourcier

It is hard to believe that May is here! It has been a very busy year. All students in First Grade have been writing and illustrating stories. Look for their published work in late May!

Keep up all of the reading you have been doing at home. You are doing a great job! Our students have come a long way since September! Please continue to practice your math facts! Students need to be confident with their basic addition and subtraction math skills. First graders also need to have good knowledge of place value. Have them practice telling you how many hundreds, tens, and ones are in numbers!

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. Let's hope the April showers bring those May flowers! Thank you!

SUPER SECOND GRADE Mrs. Strickland, Ms. Marocchini & Miss Riley

In May, the second grade students are truly beginning to blossom as they prepare for the demands of third grade! In reading, we have begun a new unit on Fables, Fairytales, and Folktales. The students are excited about the fantastical world of this unit. The focus for this unit will be on central message, the analysis of characters, and comparing and contrasting different versions of the same story. Take a visit to your local library to find books in these genres.

In writing, the students are continuing work in the unit on opinion writing. Moving forward, we will focus on using quotes, and find ways to captivate their audience. To culminate this unit, we will be choosing a piece to publish!

In math, we are inching towards our final days. The measurement unit has the students using different units of measurement. Students will also have the opportunity to explore data and line plots. To wrap up the year, we will be clocking in with concepts such as time and money. When using money at the grocery store, let your child help you choose the right amount of change. With just a short time before the end of the year, we are all on the edge of our seats for summer. We are thrilled about our field trip to TheatreWorks where we will be seeing Junie B. Jones. Thank you for all your support throughout the year!

THRILLING THIRD GRADE Mr. Sweetland & Ms. Brown

In May we will be diving into perimeter and area and geometry. Challenge your student to identify shapes in your house, can they find a pentagon, a quadrilateral, an octagon, a parallelogram, a trapezoid, or a rhombus! Have your child find the perimeter of each room of your house, and the area!

In Reading, we are immersed in learning about the town of Manchester and its history. We have learned about Mary Cheney, Horace Cheney, Howell Cheney, Seth Cheney, and Philip Cheney so far, as well as Hazel Lutz. We will be learning about the people who our schools were named after, and the history of the businesses that have come and gone in Manchester like Bon Ami, The Pitkin Glassworks, and the Cheney Silk Mills among many others. We will have a wonderful walk around Manchester, Tuesday, May 3, hosted by the Manchester Historical Society.

In writing, we will be finishing up our Opinion papers.



PHENOMENAL FOURTH GRADE Mrs. Godbout & Ms. Rivers

In May we salute Moms and volunteers, thank you for all you do to support Buckley School! There is no way to measure the impact families and volunteers have on school climate and learning. We all benefit from your love and care!

Fourth graders will enjoy a field trip to the Audubon Center in Glastonbury on May 16. The children will need sturdy shoes, long pants, a bagged lunch and a separate snack as well as a water bottle. We are thankful for the many people who have volunteered to accompany us on this wonderful trip.

This month the children will begin the year's final ELA unit, a study of the regions of the United States. In this inquiry based unit of study students will be researching then presenting the results of their research in a variety of ways. Students will be given a choice of region to investigate. If you have any personal experience with a state or region please consider coming in to share your experience with the children. We love, love, love to have guests!

We have field day on May 26 and hope to see you there!

FANTASTIC FIFTH GRADE Mrs. Adinolfi, Ms. Brahm & Mrs. Jodoin

We are looking forward to our trip to Sturbridge Village, furthering our understanding of life long ago. This will be a nice culminating activity to enhance our study of colonial life and professions. We will have an opportunity to witness many of these talented craftsmen's work firsthand.

On May 16th, the Buckley 5th graders will be taken to Bennet Academy for a quick tour. This is a chance to introduce the students to the faculty and principal of the school, and also to walk through parts of the building. It is an exciting time for us, and will help to answer some of the questions and concerns of the children. This will be for students only. Parents will have an opportunity to visit Bennet on a different date.

Although there has been a lot of talk about sixth grade and many of us are already thinking about next year, there is still a considerable amount of learning, review work, and testing to be done here at Buckley. We need everyone to remain focused and on task for the remainder of the school year. Keeping our students "in the moment" will help prepare them for tomorrow.

MARVELOUS MUSIC Mrs. Leonard



Greetings from the music room!

We are having an exciting time getting ready for the Spring Concert! The Spring Concert will be on May 24, at 2:00 and 7:00. We hope all our 5th grade singers, as well as our 4th grade instrumentalists will be able to join us for both concerts. We really need everyone to come back at night - the more Musicians, the better the sound!

We are also preparing for our Spring Festival. This performance is done during the school day for the other students. Kindergartners are learning a "Star Wars" ribbon dance, 1st grade is learning how to be "Kings and Queens", while 2nd graders are "Sashaying the Donut!" 3rd grade is going Russian with "Troika", and 4th and 5th grades are both learning 2 different maypole dances. Ask your child about their dance!

Keep singing, everybody!



AWESOME ART Mrs. Maloney

It is wonderful to have sunshine and longer days! Spring has been very busy in the Art Room. In KG, students have been creating butterfly garden sculptures and ladybugs. First grade has been working on our Ants in the Grass printmaking project. Second graders have been talking about an artist/author Tomie Depaola. We read a story called ***The Legend of the Bluebonnet***. We have been stitching with yarn on burlap and then printing our thumbprints to create beautiful blue flowers on our fabric. In third grade, we are finishing up our gardens and beginning to make a coil pot out of clay. Fourth graders have been creating a wire sculpture of a figure in action. We have been using various materials to design our wire sculptures. Part of our learning experience is using our imagination and learning how to manipulate these materials and attach them to our sculpture. We are now moving in to creating flowers in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe. Fifth graders have been working on creating a painting of a lighthouse. After completing our painting, we wrote a haiku about our lighthouse.

Congratulations to the following 2nd grade students who had their Sea Turtle painting chosen to go to the Things in the Ocean exhibit coming up in May:

Hassan, Loren, Kylee, Nadia, Vanessa, Braeden, Nevaeh, Nina, Taylor, and Parker

It will be a fun night!

SWINGIN' SCHOOL NURSE Mrs. Shirley



Oh those itchy, watery eyes, runny noses and sinus pressure! How frustrating it must be to sit in class and try to learn when you are so uncomfortable. Since we are in the full swing of allergy season, please review your child's allergy and asthma plan with your allergist or pediatrician, AND your child. Many episodes of asthma, sinusitis or even red, itchy eyes can be prevented by early and ongoing treatment of allergies. Please consider how much easier it is for your child to learn when they are not distracted by uncomfortable symptoms of allergies when they are being treated regularly.

5th Grade Parents: As I mentioned, I am collecting any physicals done AFTER 1/1/16. If your 5th grader has had a physical since that date, please send in a copy. I will enter it into the system and include it in your child's health file. This is required for entry into the 7th grade and any physical after 1/1/16 will count toward that requirement. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 647-3303.



MAGNIFICENT MEDIA CENTER

Spring is finally here. Days are getting longer and sports are in full swing. Everyone is eager to get out of the house and enjoy the weather. The school year is quickly coming to an end, so we are sending a reminder to please work with your child to make sure that library books are returned.

We are very excited to welcome Librarians from the Manchester Public Library on Monday May 23. They will be coming to introduce this year's Summer Reading Program - **Ready, Set Read.**

So let's make reading our school's Olympic challenge and go for the gold by joining and participating in the activities at Mary Cheney and Whiton Libraries this summer. Registration is online and we will be providing you with information in next month's newsletter.

The Library would also like to recognize our Pillar student of the month, Edward Zalewa for his spirit of Sportsmanship. Way to go Eddie!

Parents, if you have suggestions for books for our library please let us know. You know what books interest your child and we want to keep them reading!

Remember Readers are Leaders!



COOL COACHES' CORNER Mrs. Miner & Mrs. O'Malley

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Math March Madness Challenge. Students were asked to work on their math facts at home over the course of the month. Students were pleased to receive their Math Swag (bracelets, certificates, pencils, etc.) for their participation in the challenge. Also, our grade level winners received a free DQ ice cream cone. Students spent over 4,500 minutes doing Math at Home in March! That is wonderful news! Way to go Buckley Bobcats! The STEM Specialists just kicked off a St. Jude Math-a-thon that is another great way to do some extra math and raise money for a good cause at the same time. Keep up the great math practice!



JUMPIN' GYM Mr. Kolze & Ms. Falkowski

Field Day will be held on May 26, 2016 (rain date May 31). A notice will be sent home illustrating the facts about field day. Students in grade K-2 will be having their field day in the am beginning at 9:45 and the students in grades 3-5 will have field day in the afternoon beginning at 1:00. Each grade will be assigned a color to wear, if the student does not have the colored t-shirt they will be able to wear a pinnie that will be supplied by the PE teachers. Please remember that since Field day is scheduled for end of May, the weather is probably going to be warm, the students can bring water with them, water will also be supplied, they should wear sunscreen, wear sneakers and if they want, they can wear a hat. Field day this year is going to be ran very similar to the way it was run previous years; the students will be traveling from station to station working as teams. This is going to be an awesome fun day, please come out and support your children during Field Day!



FIRST-RATE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER Mr. Webster

Cultural night is May 18th from 6-8pm, if anyone are interested in participating, please contact Sean Webster. Mr. Webster will be contacting families that signed up to participate to go over the outline of the event.

Also, Mr. Webster is looking for volunteers for our June 1st carnival. Volunteers will be helping run the games as well as collecting the donations for MACC. More information on the carnival is coming out soon. Thanks!

Buckley School PTA News and Events

BuckleyelementaryPTA@gmail.com

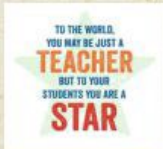


Our next PTA meeting will be held
Thursday, May 12 at 6:30pm
in the Buckley Cafeteria



The PTA will hear from our kindergarten teachers and their student representatives. Come hear what has been going on in the classrooms.

Teacher Appreciation Week



Teacher appreciation week is held May 2-6. The PTA will be sponsoring different ways to appreciate our teachers throughout the week. Please feel free to show your child's teacher how much you have appreciated them this year!

Lego Block Party

This event will take place on May 6. It was such a success last year, we decided to bring it back. We will start off by swapping legos in the cafeteria



and then move to the gym for some fun, friendly building competitions. Don't have legos of your own, come build with us. We will have extra legos for children to use during our building competition. Winners will go home with a brand new set of legos.

Movie Night/Ice Cream Social



Our next Movie Night will be combined with our annual Ice Cream Social on May 20. Please feel free to come for one or both. The Ice Cream Social will start at 6pm in the cafeteria with the movie starting at 6:30pm in the gym.



A Great Place to Grow and Explore

May 1, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you know, this school year, we started a Principals Advisory Group called the **B-PACC**. We began our meetings in October with approximately 15 members. The purpose of the Parent Advisory Group is the following:

*The purpose of the **B-PACC** is to be a formal voice of the parent community as well as the broader community for Buckley Elementary School. A key goal of the group is to promote productive dialogue among parents, staff, administration, and the community. The group serves as advocates for student needs and parents' voice. The group assists school staff and leadership in establishing priorities to inform school policy and initiatives. The group is comprised of parents, teachers, and administration from Buckley.*

The purpose of this letter is to provide an overview of where we are as we approach the end of the school year. The past two months, we have been discussing recess and the impact that physical activity has on student academic growth. During these past two meetings, we did discuss a few concerns regarding recess. Specifically, we discussed some negative behaviors on the playground. I thought I would share with you the outcome of these discussions.

Overall, recess goes well however, we do have minor behavioral issues. There are times that toward the end of recess students do have some issues with, for example, the way a game may go or end. Staff does address these issues.

Currently, we do have at least 3 staff at recess and recently, because of our discussions at our meetings, classroom teachers come out for the last five minutes of recess to assist with lining up students.

Students have a variety of activities they can participate in during recess including kickball, soccer, infinity tag, and the use of the playscape.

Our noon time aides facilitate recess games and are responsible for an area of the playground so as to ensure full supervision.

At times, other issues may arise however, we address these immediately. Please keep in mind that our students are learning to navigate social aspects of play. When challenges arise, we help students through this difficulty.

Our teachers provide, at times, an extra recess for our students.

As our group moves forward, we will continue to look at the positive impact that physical activity plays during our school day. This school year, we have incorporated various physical equipment into many classrooms that help engage minds through physical activity. The equipment includes standing desks and bicycle desks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at school.


Thank you!

Sincerely,
Matthew Daly
Principal



April 2016 Elementary Menu



Alternates	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tuna Sandwich Yogurt/Bagel Plate Chef Salad Hummus Plate		Produce of the Month  Rhubarb			1 Soft Bread Sticks Meat Sauce Caesar Salad Choice of Fruit
Ham & Cheese Sandwich Yogurt/Bagel Plate Chef Salad Hummus Plate	4 Chicken Nuggets Seasoned Noodles Steamed Carrots Choice of Fruit	5 Beefburger, Cheeseburger or Veggie Burger on a Whole Wheat Roll Lettuce & Tomato Corn Choice of Fruit	6 Pasta & Meatballs Roasted Zucchini Choice of Fruit	7 Breaded Chicken Tenders Roasted Redskin Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Choice of Fruit	8 Pizza Round Cheese or Veggie Crispy Roasted Chickpeas Choice of Fruit
	11	12	13	14	15
<h1>Spring Break</h1>					
Turkey Sandwich Yogurt/Bagel Plate Chef Salad Hummus Plate	18 French Toast Sticks Potato Wedge Sausage Links Choice of Fruit	19 Crazy Cheesy Bread Marinara Sauce Roasted Parmesan Green Beans Choice of Fruit	20 Baked Fish Sticks Macaroni & Cheese Steamed Carrots Choice of Fruit	21 Nacho Supreme Baked Tortilla Chips Taco Meat Mexican Black Beans Lettuce, Tomato, Salsa & Sour Cream, Cheese Sauce Choice of Fruit	22 French Bread Pizza Cheese or Veggie Garden Salad Choice of Fruit
Tuna Sandwich Yogurt/Bagel Plate Chef Salad Hummus Plate	25 Corn Dog Nuggets Oven Baked Fries Choice of Fruit	26 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potato with Gravy Steamed Carrots Choice of Fruit	27 Soft Bread Sticks Meat Sauce Spinach Salad Choice of Fruit	28 Soft Shell Taco Lettuce & Tomato Salsa & Sour Cream Shredded Cheese Refried Beans Choice of Fruit	29 Beefburger, Cheeseburger or Veggie Burger on a Whole Wheat Roll Lettuce & Tomato Green Beans Choice of Fruit

Menu subject to change

Please log onto www.eschoolpay.com to monitor your child's account or call 860-647-3462

Student Lunch Price: \$2.05 ~ Reduced Lunch Price: \$.40

Adult Lunch Price: \$3.25

Student Breakfast: \$1.00 ~ Reduced Breakfast: \$.30

Milk Only: \$.40

Milk is available with all lunches

Daily Milk Choices include: 1%, Skim, Fat Free Flavored

Fruit choices include a variety of fresh, canned, and 100% fruit juice.



Middletown's Message
Give a hand to the young.



PBIS Awards

APRIL 2016

Teacher	Safe	Respectful	Responsible	POC-Sportsmanship
Mrs. Adams	William Matos	Dominic Napolitano	Connor Hall	Javier Rodriguez
Mrs. Hoffman	Avery Basquiat	Sophia Pitruzzello	Connor Siggia	Hadassah Kissi
Ms. Lavallee	Trisha Patel	Liam Dalrymple	Jewelien Guzman	Jack DiStefano
Mrs. Bourcier	Aiden Armah-Boateng	George Evans	Kylie Cottle	Paul Virdorkian
Ms. Seaha	Jermaine Robinson	Hannah Muldoon	Austin Allen	Jacob Hall
Ms. Marocchini	Summer Knoff	Cody Fauteux	Makai Badeau	Brianna Seypura
Miss Riley	Ramin Mikael	Brandon Rios	Taylor Buzzell	Xavier Lopez
Mrs. Strickland	Adrian Seypura	Gavin Tomic	Natalia Harnois	Cameron Spiewak
Ms. Brown	Bhavya Patel	Lauren Smith	Ibraheem Babar	Nathan Jolly
Mr. Sweetland	Travis Armah-Boating	Ben Milvae	Katie Gagnon	Tazim Rahman
Mrs. Godbout	Lyanis Miranda	Chris Virdokian	Sammi Ward	Elise Ryan
Ms. Rivers	Shane Reid	Kayla Lang	Kaylee Cormier	Anabelle Lautenbach
Mrs. Adinolfi	Usman Avais	Kayla Perron	Bianca Pena	
Ms. Brahm	Jeremy Wagner	Victoria Mordasky	Jarus Philippe-Cole	Joseph Larson
Mrs. Jodoin	Tanner Jorczak	Sylvia Squatrito	Stephanie De-Oliveria	Lucas Ryan
Ms. Corwin		Joseph (Jo-Jo) Alcov-		
Mrs. Loneragan	Kevin Benson			
Ms. Gotta			Derek Ojeda	
Ms. Norton		Milagros Rodriguez		Zhane Bembry
Mrs. Germano	-----	-----		Camilla Ortega
Mrs. Gallo	-----	-----	-----	Olivia Commisso
Mr. Kolze/Mrs.				Taylor Buzzell
Mrs. Maloney				Arlen Peyman
Mrs. Leonard				Milagros Rodriguez
Ms. Lake				Eddie Zalewa
Ms. Ferreira				John Cammilleri